

W.C.F.

ASHBORNE

URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.



# ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE


Medical Officer of Health

For the Year 1910.



ASHBORNE :

M. ROBINSON, PRINTER, UNION STREET.



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TO THE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL  
OF ASHBORNE.

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**Annual Report for the Year 1910.**

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GENTLEMEN,

I beg to present my Report for the year ended  
December 31st, 1910.

The population at the middle of the year, estimated from the totals at the Census of 1891 and 1901 is 4252, which is 16 less than the “natural increase” in population, *i.e.*, the excess of births over deaths, without taking into account the differences due to immigration and emigration. It will be interesting to note, in this year of the Census, how nearly the estimate built upon an artificial and arbitrary basis agrees with the population actually enumerated.



**Birth Rate.** The number of Births registered during 1910 was 87, of which 7 were illegitimate. This total is 9 less than last year, and 11 less than 1908. Of the 87 Births 47 were males and 40 females. The Birth Rate is 20·46 per thousand inhabitants, a distinct reduction on 1909, when the rate was 22·69. It is the lowest rate ever recorded in your District.

**Death Rate.** During the year 1910 the number of Deaths registered in your District also creates a record. Only 36 were registered in Ashborne itself. There were 13 in the Union Workhouse (of which 8 belonged to the Urban District), and 4 in the Cottage Hospital—all of which belonged to your District, bringing the total number of Deaths belonging to the Ashborne Urban District to 48. The total in 1909, and also in 1908 was 54 for each year.

The Death Rate per thousand inhabitants is 11·28, as against 12·8 in the preceding years, and 14·2 for the average of the last 10 years.

The Infantile Mortality (that is, deaths occurring among children less than 12 months old) is greater than in the preceding 2 or 3 years; more than half of the Deaths being due to prematurity or delicate constitution from birth. The total in



1908 was 6 ; in 1909, it was 8 ; and this year the number has risen to 9, making a Death Rate of 103·4 per thousand Births, as against 83·3 in 1909, and 61·2 in 1908.

The causes of death among Infants were as follows :—

Marasmus	...	...	3
Prematurity	...	...	2
Whooping Cough		...	1
Bronchitis	...	...	1
Convulsions	...	...	1
Pyæmia	...	...	1
			<hr/>
			9
			<hr/>

The rise in the rate of Infantile Mortality in the year under review appears to arise from the same cause as in 1909, viz: to the larger number of weakly children dying within a short time of birth, and not to any special increase of illness or infectious disease among them. In spite of the prevalence of a severe type of measles in the District, there is no death to record from that cause.

**Zymotic  
Diseases.**

Of the seven Zymotic Diseases, (Smallpox, Measles, Scarlet Fever, Diphtheria, Typhoid Fever, Whooping Cough, and Diarrhœa), only one has



given rise to a death in the District during the year. A child of nine months old died of broncho-pneumonia, occurring as a complication of whooping-cough. The Death Rate from Zymotic Diseases is  $\cdot 23$ , as against  $\cdot 47$  and 2 deaths in 1909.

#### Phthisis.

There were 5 deaths from Tubercular diseases during 1910; all from tubercular disease of the lungs. The Death Rate is 1.17 per thousand inhabitants, as against 1.4 in 1909, in which year there were 6 deaths from tubercle.

#### Other Respiratory Diseases.

In 1910 there 4 deaths from Respiratory diseases other than tubercular disease—2 from Bronchitis, and 2 from Pneumonia. In 1909 there were 7, and in 1908, 6 deaths, and the Death Rate per thousand inhabitants for the 3 years was respectively  $\cdot 94$ , 1.65, and 1.4

#### Heart Disease.

There were 4 cases of Heart Disease in 1910; three less than in 1909, and the Death Rate is  $\cdot 94$  as compared with 1.65 for 1909.

#### Cancer.

Cancer accounted for 3 deaths; 2 less than in the preceding year. The Death Rate per thousand of population is  $\cdot 7$  as against 1.18 for 1909.

Nearly half the total number of deaths during the year occurred above the age of 65, including 6 between 80 and 90: 1 at 92, and 1 at the age of 100.



## NOTIFICATIONS OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

The number of cases of Notifiable Infectious Disease fell from 14 in 1909 to 11 in 1910. There were 4 cases of Scarlet Fever, (mild and sporadic in type), 3 of Diphtheria, and 4 of Erysipelas, with no deaths. There has been no serious outbreak of these diseases. There was, however, during the second half of the year, a wide-spread epidemic of measles which, though of a severe type, was fortunately unattended by dangerous complications, and did not give rise to any deaths. Whooping Cough was prevalent in the earlier part of the year, and accounted for one death—the only one from Zymotic Disease in the District during the year.

Diphtheria Antitoxin was used in all the cases of Diphtheria, and proved of the greatest value. It is gratifying to know that your Sanitary Authority provide Antitoxin free of charge in the case of those too poor to pay for what is really an expensive remedy. I have also to report on the great value of a privilege accorded to all Sanitary Authorities by the County Council—that of being able to obtain a prompt and authoritative opinion on the nature of the discharge from the throat in a case of suspected Diphtheria. The knowledge thus gained is of immense value, not only to the



Medical Practitioner in charge of the case, but to the community at large.

There were few cases of Diarrhœa, probably as the result of another wet, cold Summer.

Under the Tuberculous Regulations, 1908, one case of Tubercular disease occurring in a pauper was notified.

The Cemetery in the Mayfield Road was, in the earlier part of the year, completed and opened, and half of it was consecrated by the Bishop of the Diocese.

The Sewage Works were also completed during the year, and up to the present are working satisfactorily.

Sanitary Inspection of the District has been carried out regularly and systematically by the Sanitary Inspector in conjunction with the Medical Officer. Cowsheds, Dairies, Bakehouses, Lodging-houses, House Property, Yards, and Slaughter-houses are kept under constant supervision; and meat and other food supplies are frequently inspected in the weekly market. No tuberculous or diseased meat has been detected in the District.



MEDICAL INSPECTION OF SCHOOL  
CHILDREN.

The Medical Inspection of School Children has been continued during the current year by the Medical Officer in conjunction with the School Nurse. There is no doubt that the health, the tidiness, and the cleanliness of the children have much improved since the regular inspections began.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

ERNEST A. SADLER.

Medical Officer of Health.

25th March, 1911.

